

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please rewrite the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of inspecting a printed paper on which image images are printed repeatedly, the method comprising the steps of:

predetermining a threshold (a) of lowest stained density near a level (L1) of
lowest printed density for inspection of stained parts;

predetermining a threshold (b) of highest blurred density near a level (L2) of
highest printed density for inspection of blurred parts;

reading multi level valued data of reference of each of colors color from a printed paper
on which images are printed to be good, the multi level valued data of reference being converted
into two level monochrome data of reference by using the thresholds (a, b) of lowest stained
density and highest blurred density so that two level monochrome images of reference can be
reproduced stored in a memory (24) from the two level monochrome data of reference;

reading multi level valued data of inspection of each of colors color from a printed paper
which is fed when inspecting, the multi level valued data of inspection being converted into two
level monochrome data of inspection by using the thresholds (a,b) of lowest stained densities and
highest blurred density so that two level monochrome images of inspection can be reproduced
stored in the memory (24) from the two level monochrome data of inspection; and

comparing the two level monochrome images of inspection with the two level
monochrome images of reference for inspection of stained parts and blurred parts parts;

predetermining areas for decision of stained parts or blurred parts;

recognizing whether the monochrome images of inspection include portions disagreeing with the monochrome images of reference or not where the portions are positioned and what areas the portions have and deciding on stained parts or blurred parts when the portions have areas exceeding the areas for decision of stained parts or blurred parts;

predetermining a limit (c) of minus differential density independently of the threshold (a) of lowest stained density for inspection of shortage of printed density at every pixel;

predetermining a limit (d) of plus differential density independently of the threshold (b) of highest blurred density for inspection of excess of printed density at every pixel;
comparing the multi-valued data of inspection with the multi-valued data of reference at every pixel for recognition of difference between the multi-valued data of reference and the multi-valued data of inspection;

predetermining area for decision of shortage of excess of printed density;
deciding on shortage of excess of printed density when the difference exceeds the limit (c, d) of minus differential density or plus differential density by portions having areas which exceed the areas for decisions of shortage or excess of printed density; and
executing the inspection and decision of stained parts and blurred parts and the inspection and decision of shortage and excess of printed density simultaneously.

2. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the step of comparing includes the step a step of partitioning the two-level monochrome images of reference and the two-level monochrome images of inspection into parts to compare the two-level

monochrome images of inspection with the ~~two level~~ monochrome images of reference at every part.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in ~~claim 3~~ claim 1 further comprising the step of generating an alarm of stained parts or blurred parts when finding ~~out~~ the stained parts or blurred parts.

5. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1 further comprising the step of detecting the positional variations of the printed paper at ~~very~~ every page when the printed paper is fed, to compensate for the positional variations the ~~two level~~ monochrome images ~~reproduced~~ stored in the memory 24 ~~for the positional variations~~.

6 and 7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in ~~claim 7~~ claim 1 further comprising the step of generating an alarm of shortage or excess of printed density when finding ~~out~~ the shortage or excess of printed density.

9-18. (Canceled).